

Safety

Motorcycle Safety

For the Commander:

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**History.** This UPDATE publishes a new pamphlet.

**Summary.** This pamphlet provides guidance

for the implementation of the Army Motorcycle Safety Course and training requirements.

**Applicability.** This pamphlet is applicable to all elements of this command.

**Proponent and exception authority.** The proponent of this pamphlet is the Chief of Staff. The proponent has the authority to approve exceptions to this pamphlet that are consistent with the controlling law and regulation. Proponent may delegate the approval authority, in writing, to the Command Safety Officer in the grade of GS-12 or equivalent.

**Suggested improvements.** Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to HQ USAREC (RCCS-SAF), Fort Knox, KY 40121-2726.

**Distribution.** Distribution of this pamphlet has been made in accordance with USAREC Pam 25-30, distribution A. This pamphlet is published in the Recruiting Station Administration UPDATE.

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**1. Purpose**

To provide guidance for implementation of the Army Motorcycle Safety Course and training requirements within the United States Army Recruiting Command (USAREC).

**2. References**

- a. Required publications.
  - (1) AR 385-55 (Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents). (Cited in paras 4a, 4b, and 4d, and table 1.)
  - (2) USAREC Reg 385-2 (Safety Program). (Cited in para 4a and table 1.)
- b. Related publication. DODI 6055.4 (DOD Traffic Safety Program).
- c. Prescribed form. USAREC Form 1236 (Commander's Motorcycle Rider Agreement). (Cited in para 4-f.)

**3. Explanation of abbreviations**

- a. DOD — Department of Defense
- b. USAREC — United States Army Recruiting Command

**4. General**

- a. AR 385-55 outlines detailed requirements for operation of privately-owned motorcycles on military installations or while on official business off post, to include satisfactory completion of an Army-approved motorcycle safety course. This course consists of classroom instruction, hands-on training, and successful completion of a hands-on and written evaluation. USAREC Reg 385-2 further outlines requirements for USAREC soldiers who operate privately-owned motorcycles on and off federal and state military installations.
- b. The completion of an Army-approved motorcycle safety course is mandatory for all USAREC soldiers who operate motorcycles in accordance with AR 385-55. For soldiers, this applies on or off an installation, on- or off-duty, and even if the motorcycle is not registered within the Department of Defense (DOD).
- c. Department of the Army civilians and Army contract employees are required to have the same training before operating motorcycles on

- a military installation or using the motorcycle while in an official capacity even if off the installation.
- d. The required training will be provided at no cost to military and DOD civilian personnel. Annual leave will not be charged for military and DOD civilian personnel to attend an Army-approved safety course.
- e. Only courses meeting the Army Motorcycle Safety Course requirements as described in AR 385-55 are accepted. The USAREC Safety Office will assist in interpretation of the requirements as needed. A complete list of the nearest Motorcycle Safety Foundation locations, contact list, and military and state motorcycle safety coordinators can be located online at <http://msf-usa.org/pages/msfcontactsfs.html>.
- f. Commanders and managers at all levels will remind motorcycle operators in their organizations of the safe operation points in table 1. This will be done as part of routine pre-holiday and seasonal safety briefings, pre-holiday inspections, and as needed.
- g. Commanders will also consider other measures likely to be effective in reducing motorcycle accidents. It is required that commanders use USAREC Form 1236 (Commander's Motorcycle Rider Agreement) (see fig 1).

**Table 1**  
**Motorcycle safety reminders**

1. Wear full-face helmets, goggles or helmet face shield, long pants, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, gloves, leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes, and reflective vest (orange or yellow). (AR 385-55 and USAREC Reg 385-2 require it on and off the installation.)
2. Place reflective materials on the motorcycle itself.
3. Use an operating headlight at all times, day and night. (Mandatory under certain state laws.)
4. Drive sober. Control speed. Allow ample time to get where you are going.

**Table 1**

**Motorcycle safety reminders--continued**

5. Be alert to weather, road, and traffic conditions. (Wind plays havoc with control and wet roads to include: Oil spots, ice, water, wet leaves, sand or gravel, or low visibility demands extra alertness.)
6. Ensure the motorcycle is in good working order (tire tread, condition, and pressure; control levers and cables; brakes; and drive train).
7. Never lend the bike to an unskilled or unlicensed rider. (Twenty percent of all riders involved in accidents are riding for the first or second time.)
8. New owners should study the owner's manual and learn to operate the controls without looking. Learn-to-ride courses such as the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Motorcycle Rider Course or others are invaluable for new riders.
9. Make sure you attend either the Motorcycle Rider Course (for new riders) or the Experienced Rider Course (for the more advanced). For course location nearest you, call toll free 1-800-446-9227. A complete list of locations, contact list, and military and state motorcycle safety coordinators can be located online at <a href="http://msf-usa.org/pages/msfcontactsfs.html">http://msf-usa.org/pages/msfcontactsfs.html</a> . Recruiting brigade safety officers should maintain a listing of acceptable courses for their region.

## COMMANDER'S MOTORCYCLE RIDER AGREEMENT

(For use of this form see USAREC Pam 385-2)

To be kept on file for 2 weeks after soldier leaves unit and updated biannually or when changes in status occur. Commander is held accountable for the record keeping of this form.

1. DATE:

2 Dec 02

2. The motorcyclist received a motorcycle safety brief on this date: 2 Dec 02

*(To be given when coming to unit or purchasing a motorcycle or all-terrain vehicle in accordance with USAREC Reg 385-2, Safety Program.)*

Includes wearing of reflective vest at all times. Wearing over-the-ankle leather boots, full-fingered gloves, long-sleeve shirt, long pants, and full-face helmet (required). Most dangerous times and areas for riding. USAREC specific motorcycle accident data.

3. Date motorcycle license will expire:

May 04

4. Date registration and license plate will expire:

Oct 03

5. Date motorcycle insurance will expire:

30 Apr 03 (6-month policy)

6. Last inspection of motorcycle by unit *(attach USAREC Form 1176 (POV Inspection Checklist))*:

2 Dec 02

7. Date of completion for the Army-approved motorcycle safety course *(attach copy of certificate)*:

22 Nov 02

8. Risk assessment of soldier *(use USAREC Form 1144 (Risk Management Card) and FM 100-14, Risk Management, to assess and check the appropriate risk code)*:



Low



Moderate



High



Extremely High

Comments: SFC Reagan has been riding for several years prior to obtaining a new motorcycle. He could not find his Army Motorcycle Safety Course Certificate so he retok the training and stated that it will be a pleasure to recertify. His previous commander and first sergeant stated that he was a solid and safety motivated soldier. I have every confidence in his ability to manage risk and ride safely.

9. It is the responsibility of not only the commander to ensure motorcyclists reduce the risk to themselves but also the rider, the rider's supervisors, and those who work with them to foster an environment that is conducive to safety mentorship. Preventing an accident before it can occur is the goal of accident prevention and this agreement is between the commander and the cyclist.

I, SFC Alex Reagan, will inform my commander anytime the information on this form changes to ensure the trust the commander places in me is well founded. I also agree to assess all risks prior to and during my riding and furthermore abide by all laws, regulations, and rules of conduct on the highways, roads, and installations. I will ensure all documentation is current and available at all times.

As the Unit Commander, I, CPT Ian Powell, will ensure all regulatory guidance is followed and take full responsibility when it is not. I will ensure the safety and well-being of my soldiers comes first. A fatally injured soldier hampers the command mission and I will do my best to ensure mission success. I will always be available to mentor and assist those that sign this agreement.

Figure 1. Sample of a completed USAREC Form 1236